



TAUZIN CONSULTANTS

October 18, 2016

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Ms. Marlene Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
The Portals  
445 12th Street SW  
Washington DC 20554

Re: **Ex Parte Presentation**, WC Docket No. 16-143, Business Data Services in an Internet Protocol Environment.

On Friday, October 14, 2016, I spoke with Amb. Philip Verveer from Chairman Wheeler's office by telephone to discuss Business Data Services (BDS or Special Access), as referenced in WC Docket No. 16-143.

I explained, on behalf of CenturyLink, that moving forward with the downward adjustment in price cap of 11% over 3 years could limit CenturyLink's efforts to improve and expand broadband service to its customers. The rate reductions in the proposed order would make the business case for deploying fiber and broadband even more difficult, especially in less densely populated areas that are already hard to serve. The result would be less competition and less broadband investment, not more. I urged the Commission to adopt a more balanced approach that recognizes the state of competition in the BDS market and does not negatively affect infrastructure investment.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission's Rules, this letter is being filed in the Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS).

Sincerely,

Congressman Billy Tauzin

Cc: Chairman Tom Wheeler  
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn  
Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel  
Commissioner Ajit Pai  
Commissioner Michael O'Rielly  
Ambassador Philip Verveer